

MINUTES

February 10, 2010

SITE: Hillcrest Recreation Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carrie Wasley, Therese Kelly, Susan Bishop, Jonathan Carter, Peter Pha, Betsy Mowry, Andy Trcka and Erick Goodlow

MEMBERS ABSENT: Paul Middleton (excused)

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Hahm, Brian Tourtelotte, Lindsay Hilger

GUESTS: Bruce Elder

1. AGENDA, MINUTES, INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chair Wasley.
- b. Commissioner Kelly moved to approve the Agenda with one correction from Director Hahm: Action item 3 should be removed to be revisited at a later meeting. Agenda was 2nd by Commissioner Pha. The vote was 7 to 0 in favor with two Commissioners absent.
- c. Commissioner Kelly moved to approve the December minutes and was 2nd by Commissioner Pha. The vote was 7 to 0 in favor with two Commissioners absent.
- d. Commissioner Kelly moved to approve the January minutes and was 2nd by Commissioner Trcka. The vote was 7 to 0 in favor with two Commissioners absent (One Commissioner arrived after this vote was taken).
- e. Director Mike Hahm introduced Lindsay Hilger, an intern with Parks and Recreation, staffing today's meeting in Diana Berchem's absence.

2. ACTION ITEMS

- a. **Resolution#10-01 Adopt Department Strategic Plan**
Director Hahm asked for last comments on the plan, recommending to adopt the presented draft of the plan. Chair Wasley expressed her appreciation for the staff's work on the plan. Director Hahm noted that the plan would be posted online for viewing. Commissioner Kelly motioned to accept the Department Strategic Plan as presented and 2nd by Commissioner Mowry. The vote was 8 to 0 in favor with one Commissioner absent.
- b. **Resolution #10-02 1285 Como Boulevard West □ Parkland Diversion**
Director Hahm referenced the staff recommendation to allow the diversion. Commissioner Kelly motioned to approve the resolution and 2nd by Commissioner Trcka. The vote was 8 to 0 with one Commissioner absent.
- c. **Resolution #10-03 was withdrawn**

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. **Water Resource Plan Introduction (Brian Tourtelotte and Bruce Elder)**
Director Hahm introduced the item providing some background stating that this would serve as a preview of these issues and that a follow up would occur at the March 10th meeting with a final draft of the plan for approval. This plan is the result of increasing pressure related to storm water regulations on parkland property. The current draft of the plan has changed from the draft that was mailed to the Commissioners prior to the meeting. Both Brian Tourtelotte and Bruce Elder expressed their hope to tie this plan into existing City policies providing clarity in how Parks and Recreation collaborates with Public Works to comply with the increased regulations on storm water. Bruce Elder noted the success of previous Public Works project at Lake Como. Director Hahm stated that the present draft of the plan

contained elements that will change before next month based on discussion with Public Works and Parks to create the best language. He expressed that there was much agreement already with Public Works. Commissioner Carter and Commissioner Bishop expressed concern about consideration for feedback and standards for evaluation for the project. Director Hahm and Bruce Elder acknowledged the Commissioners' concerns and indicated that the adjustment would be made. Director Hahm asked if there were any requests for an appearance from Public Works staff at the next meeting. It was agreed that no presence would be necessary pending any questions on the policy that will be mailed prior to the meeting.

4. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

a. **Review 2010 Commission Work Plan** – Director Hahm expressed his thanks for the work on the plan in January and his support for recommending the current work plan.. Commissioner Kelly moved to approve the work plan and 2nd by Commissioner Pha. The vote was 8 to 0 with one Commissioner absent.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- a. **Wells Fargo Winterskate Update** - The 2009-2010 season of the Wells Fargo Winterskate rink was a success. Director Hahm expressed his thanks.
- b. **Legislative Update** - Director Hahm reported on pending bonding requests at the state legislature and potential impacts to city budgets as the state resolves its budget deficit.
- c. **EAB Update** - The feedback from the public has been minimal. Director Hahm expressed that he was pleased with the communications tactics executed concerning the issue.

6. SUBCOMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

- a. **Dog Park** □ Commissioner Mowry, Commissioner Carter - The Dog Park subcommittee did not meet due to the number of absences.
- b. **Second Shift** □ Commissioner Mowry, Commissioner Bishop – Neither Commissioner Mowry nor Commissioner Bishop was in attendance at the last meeting. Director Hahm did attend the meeting where the committee met with the two new school board members.
- c. **Blooming St. Paul** □ Commissioner Middleton □ In Commissioner Middleton's absence, Director Hahm communicated that the Blooming Saint Paul awards ceremony went well.
- d. **Transportation Advisory Board** □ Commissioner Carter, Commissioner Trcka □ Commissioner Carter stated that since the last Commission meeting the board has held two meetings including a bike advocacy meeting, but did not hold a work session.
- e. **Trees** □ Commissioner Goodlow, Commissioner Pha
Information on the Emerald Ash Borer removal cycle is available. Director Hahm noted the Street Tree Master Plan to be considered as an action item for the next meeting.
- f. **Ramsey County Conservation District** □ Chair Wasley - Nothing to report.
- g. **Phalen Keller Master Plan** □ Commissioner Bishop, Commissioner Carter
All feedback from the public can now be viewed online along with some historic photographs of the area. There has been some concern expressed by citizens about existing maintenance standards.

7. ADJOURNMENT

It was motioned to adjourn by Commissioner Kelly and 2nd by Chair Wasley. The vote was 8 to 0 with one Commissioner absent.
Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.